



Gainesville Fire Rescue

1025 NE 13th Street, P.O. Box 490, Gainesville, Florida 32601

Fire Incident Report

Incident Location: SW 16TH ST / SW 16TH AV

Jurisdiction: GFR

Type of Situation Found:	Incident Date:	Incident #:
RESCUE/EMS-Trench/below grade rescue	Thursday, January 10, 2019	19000480

Est. Property Loss:

Est. Contents Loss:

Property Use:

Health care, detention, &
correction, other

Responding Units:	ACFR CR#: 19001132	1st Unit Responding:	9:17 AM
TW1 Q2 R81 DC1 DC2 E4 SQ1 z301 z103		1st Unit Onscene:	9:24 AM

Detector Performance:

Extinguishment

System Performance:

Narrative:

TW1 dispatched reference CON SPACE/TRENCH TECH RESCUE. The location we were dispatched was a construction site amongst other construction sites which caused a delay because there was no one out to flag down or direct fire personnel. TW1 arrived on scene and waited for security to unlock the gate. Once inside the compound TW1 LT and FF had to ask for further direction as to where the pt/victim was and inquire about his condition. The direction given was a finger pointing to a baco and a 12-15' deep hole with no other verbal description of the scene or pt condition. TW1 LT and FF got to the hole and were unable to see any victim until finally one of the workers stated the pt was buried at the bottom of the ladder. Due to the subject being completely buried at an unknown depth the initial decision was to place one of our tech rescue personnel in the hole, prior to a tag line being available. TW1 FF Rogers immediately got in the whole and started trying to locate the victim by digging with his hands while LT Pace got shovels. Once tag lines became available all rescue personnel in the danger zone were in a harness and tag lined. One of the workers

had walked over and directed Rogers to the general vicinity of where the pts head might be. After about 45 sec to a minute of shoveling and moving dirt, the top of the victims head was visible and it was noted immediately that he was moving. Pts ears were blue and his face was oriented down; none of his body was visible. A void was dug out around his airway by hand to allow our pt to breathe. Our pt was conscious but disoriented. FF Davis entered the hole and assisted with digging out dirt from around the pts chest and torso. Pt became more alert throughout the rescue and was able to communicate with TW1 rescuers in the hole. Our pt stated he did not have any medical conditions and the only pain he was feeling was in his legs. This information was relayed to the rescue for efficient pt care continuity. All rescuers were put on a five minute work rest cycle. FF Davis was first out of the hole and replaced by LT Pace, and FF Rogers was replaced by FF Pearce two minutes later. Top side, our tech rescue personnel set up a main and belay line for extricating our pt. Plywood for ground pads was requested multiple times and was never received. During the second five minute work cycle, TW1 was able to remove enough soil from around our pt to where he was able to wiggle himself free. Once pt was free he denied any severe pain, he had good gross motor function and was breathing normal. Once the pt was free the sole mission was to get both rescuers and the pt out of the hole as quickly as possible. Due to the precarious situation and the pts condition, the decision was made to allow our pt to walk up the ladder with assistance from top and bottom side rescuers. Pt was immediately placed on the stretcher and packaged for transport by E4 and R81. All further pt care was provided by R81.